

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice and add the following new claims:

2. A system comprising:

a. a first circuit comprising a first detector for detecting events of a first type via a provided antenna, the first circuit providing a first signal in response to detection, an event of the first type comprising at least one of presence of a provided radio frequency identification device and identification of the provided radio frequency identification device;

b. a second circuit comprising a second detector for detecting events of a second type via a provided sensor, the second circuit providing a second signal in response to detection, an event of the second type comprising at least one of recognition of a bar code and detecting operation of a door; and

c. a monitor that provides indicia of the occurrence of events in accordance with a selected configuration wherein provision of indicia is responsive to:

(1) the first signal when the selected configuration is a first configuration; and

(2) the second signal when the selected configuration is a second configuration.

3. A system comprising:

a. a monitor; and

b. a plurality of antenna controllers coupled to the monitor via a network, the plurality comprising:

(1) a first antenna controller comprising a first interface for coupling a first antenna to the first antenna controller, wherein the first antenna controller provides indicia of radio frequency identification to the monitor, and

(2) a second antenna controller comprising a second interface for coupling a second antenna to the second antenna controller and a third interface for coupling a provided sensor to the antenna controller, wherein the second antenna controller provides indicia of radio frequency identification to the monitor and provides indicia via the sensor of at least one of a bar code and operation of a door; wherein

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13 c. each antenna controller of the plurality operates its respective interfaces in  
14 accordance with commands provided by the monitor via the network and identified to the  
15 respective antenna controller by a respective address.

1 4. An antenna controller having an address, the antenna controller comprising:

2 a. a network interface for coupling the antenna controller to a provided  
3 monitor;

4 b. an antenna interface for coupling a provided antenna to the antenna  
5 controller;

6 c. a sensor interface for coupling a provided sensor to the antenna controller,  
7 the sensor for providing to the antenna controller indicia of at least one of a bar code or operation  
8 of a door;

9 d. a radio frequency amplifier coupled to the antenna interface for amplifying a  
10 signal from the antenna;

11 e. a processor coupled to the network interface, to the amplifier, and to the  
12 sensor interface, wherein:

13 f. the processor enables the amplifier to receive the signal from the antenna in  
14 accordance with a command received via the network and identified to the antenna controller by  
15 the address; and

16 g. the processor receives via the network interface a request from the monitor  
17 identified to the antenna controller by the address, and in response reports to the monitor in  
18 accordance with the indicia.

1 5. A system comprising:

2 a. a monitor; and

3 b. a plurality of antenna controllers coupled to the monitor via a network, an  
4 antenna controller of the plurality comprising:

5 (1) a coupler;

6 (2) a radio frequency amplifier; and

7 (3) a plurality of interfaces, each for coupling a provided antenna to  
8 the coupler; wherein

9 c. in response to a command received from the monitor via the network and  
10 identified to the antenna controller by a respective address, the coupler couples at least one  
11 antenna interface to the amplifier for amplifying a signal from an antenna interface identified by  
12 the command.

1 6. An antenna controller having an address, the antenna controller comprising:

2 a. a network interface for coupling the antenna controller to a provided  
3 monitor;

4 b. a coupler;

5 c. a radio frequency amplifier; and

6 d. a plurality of interfaces, each for coupling a provided antenna to the  
7 coupler; wherein

8 e. in response to a command received from the monitor via the network  
9 interface and identified to the antenna controller by a respective address, the coupler couples at  
10 least one antenna interface to the amplifier for amplifying a signal from an antenna interface  
11 identified by the command.

12 7. A system comprising:

13 a. a monitor; and

14 b. a plurality of antenna controllers coupled to the monitor via a network, an  
15 antenna controller of the plurality comprising:

(1) a coupler;

(2) a radio frequency amplifier having an input;

(3) a plurality of interfaces, each for coupling a provided antenna to  
the coupler;

(4) a memory; and

(5) a plurality of reactive elements selectively coupled in accordance  
with contents of the memory to the input of the amplifier; wherein

c. in response to at least one command received from the monitor via a  
network and identified to the antenna controller by a respective address, the coupler couples at  
least one antenna interface to the amplifier and the memory provides contents for selectively  
coupling at least one of the reactive elements to the amplifier input.

1 8. An antenna controller having an address, the antenna controller comprising:  
2 a. a network interface for coupling the antenna controller to a provided monitor;  
3 b. a coupler;  
4 c. a radio frequency amplifier having an input; and  
5 d. a plurality of interfaces, each for coupling a provided antenna to the coupler;  
6 wherein  
7 e. a memory; and  
8 f. a plurality of reactive elements selectively coupled in accordance with  
9 contents of the memory to the input of the amplifier; wherein  
10 g. in response to at least one command received from the monitor via a network  
11 and identified to the antenna controller by a respective address, the coupler couples at least one  
12 antenna interface to the amplifier and the memory provides contents for selectively coupling at  
13 least one of the reactive elements to the amplifier input.

14 9. A system comprising:

15 a. a monitor; and  
16 b. a plurality of antenna controllers coupled to the monitor via a network, an  
17 antenna controller of the plurality comprising:  
18 (1) a coupler;  
19 (2) a radio frequency amplifier having an input;  
20 (3) a plurality of interfaces, each for coupling a provided antenna to  
21 the coupler;  
22 (4) a memory; and  
23 (5) a plurality of reactive elements selectively coupled in accordance  
24 with contents of the memory to the input of the amplifier; wherein  
25 in response to at least one command received from the monitor via a network and identified to  
26 the antenna controller by a respective address, the coupler couples at least one antenna interface  
27 to the amplifier, the memory stores updated contents provided via the network interface, and the  
28 memory provides contents for selectively coupling at least one of the reactive elements to the  
29 amplifier input.

1 10. An antenna controller having an address, the antenna controller comprising:

2 a. a network interface for coupling the antenna controller to a provided monitor;

- 3 b. a coupler;  
4 c. a radio frequency amplifier having an input; and  
5 d. a plurality of interfaces, each for coupling a provided antenna to the coupler;

6 wherein

- 7 e. a memory; and  
8 f. a plurality of reactive elements selectively coupled in accordance with

9 contents of the memory to the input of the amplifier; wherein  
10 in response to at least one command received from the monitor via a network and identified to  
11 the antenna controller by a respective address, the coupler couples at least one antenna interface  
12 to the amplifier, the memory stores updated contents provided via the network interface, and the  
13 memory provides contents for selectively coupling at least one of the reactive elements to the  
14 amplifier input.

11. A system comprising:

- 12 a. a monitor; and  
13 b. a plurality of antenna controllers coupled to the monitor via a network, an  
14 antenna controller of the plurality comprising:

- 15 (1) a coupler;  
16 (2) a radio frequency amplifier having an input;  
17 (3) a plurality of interfaces, each for coupling a provided antenna to  
18 the coupler; and

19 (4) a squelch circuit coupled to the coupler; wherein  
20 in response to at least one command received from the monitor via the network and identified to  
21 the antenna controller by a respective address, the coupler couples at least one antenna interface  
22 to the squelch circuit and to the amplifier input, and the squelch circuit is operated to dissipate  
23 energy from the antenna interface prior to normal operation of the amplifier.

1 12. An antenna controller having an address, the antenna controller comprising:

- 2 a. a network interface for coupling the antenna controller to a provided monitor;  
3 b. a coupler;  
4 c. a radio frequency amplifier having an input;  
5 d. a plurality of interfaces, each for coupling a provided antenna to the coupler;

6 and

7 e. a squelch circuit coupled to the coupler; wherein  
8 in response to at least one command received from the monitor via the network and identified to  
9 the antenna controller by a respective address, the coupler couples at least one antenna interface  
10 to the squelch circuit and to the amplifier input, and the squelch circuit is operated to dissipate  
11 energy from the antenna interface prior to normal operation of the amplifier.

1 13. A system comprising:

2 a. a monitor; and  
3 b. a plurality of antenna controllers coupled to the monitor via a network, a first  
4 antenna controller of the plurality coupled to a second antenna controller of the plurality, each  
5 antenna controller of the plurality comprising:

6 (1) a coupler;  
7 (2) a radio frequency amplifier having an input and an output;  
8 (3) a plurality of interfaces, each for coupling a provided antenna to  
9 the coupler;

10 (4) an I/O interface for receiving an input signal to the antenna  
11 controller and for providing an output signal from the antenna controller; and

12 (5) a difference circuit having first and second inputs and an output  
13 driven by the difference circuit as the algebraic difference of signals respectively from the first  
14 and second inputs; wherein  
15 in response to at least one command received from the monitor via the network and identified to  
16 the antenna controller by a respective address, the coupler couples at least one antenna interface  
17 to the amplifier input, the input signal of the I/O interface is coupled to the first input of the  
18 difference circuit, the output of the amplifier is coupled to the second input of the difference  
19 circuit, and the output signal of the I/O interface is provided in accordance with the output of the  
20 difference circuit.

1 14. An antenna controller having an address, the antenna controller comprising:

2 a. a network interface for coupling the antenna controller to a provided monitor;  
3 b. a coupler;  
4 c. a radio frequency amplifier having an input and an output;  
5 d. a plurality of interfaces, each for coupling a provided antenna to the coupler;

6 e. an I/O interface for receiving an input signal to the antenna controller and for  
7 providing an output signal from the antenna controller; and

8 f. a difference circuit having first and second inputs and an output driven by the  
9 difference circuit as the algebraic difference of signals respectively from the first and second  
10 inputs; wherein

11 in response to at least one command received from the monitor via the network and identified to  
12 the antenna controller by a respective address, the coupler couples at least one antenna interface  
13 to the amplifier input, the input signal of the I/O interface is coupled to the first input of the  
14 difference circuit, the output of the amplifier is coupled to the second input of the difference  
15 circuit, and the output signal of the I/O interface is provided in accordance with the output of the  
16 difference circuit.

17 15. A system comprising:

18 a. a monitor; and

19 b. a plurality of antenna controllers coupled to the monitor via a network, each  
20 antenna controller of the plurality providing an output signal to the monitor via a respective line,  
21 each antenna controller of the plurality comprising:

22 (1) a first and a second coupler;

23 (2) a first and a second radio frequency amplifier;

24 (3) a plurality of interfaces, each for coupling a provided antenna to  
25 the coupler;

26 (4) an output interface for providing the output signal from the antenna  
27 controller; and

28 (5) a difference circuit having first and second inputs and an output  
29 driven by the difference circuit as the algebraic difference of signals respectively from the first  
30 and second inputs; wherein  
31 in response to at least one command received from the monitor via the network and identified to  
32 the antenna controller by a respective address, the first coupler couples at least one respective  
33 antenna interface to each of the first and the second amplifiers respectively, the second coupler  
34 couples each amplifier output to a respective input of the difference circuit and couples the  
35 output of the difference circuit to the output interface.

1 16. An antenna controller having an address, the antenna controller providing an output  
2 signal to the monitor via a line, the antenna controller comprising:  
3 a. a first and a second coupler;  
4 b. a first and a second radio frequency amplifier;  
5 c. a plurality of interfaces, each for coupling a provided antenna to the coupler;  
6 d. an output interface for providing the output signal from the antenna controller;  
7 and  
8 e. a difference circuit having first and second inputs and an output driven by the  
9 difference circuit as the algebraic difference of signals respectively from the first and second  
10 inputs; wherein  
11 f. in response to at least one command received from the monitor via the  
12 network and identified to the antenna controller by a respective address, the first coupler couples  
13 at least one respective antenna interface to each of the first and the second amplifiers  
14 respectively, the second coupler couples each amplifier output to a respective input of the  
15 difference circuit and couples the output of the difference circuit to the output interface